

CLAIMS

1. An entertainment system, comprising:

terminal devices of individual users connected to a network; and

a server machine connected via the network to the terminal devices;

wherein the server machine distributes content to the terminal devices according to a content distribution schedule set on each one of the terminal devices.

2. The entertainment system according to claim 1, wherein the content distribution schedule is set based on content distribution requests transmitted from the terminal devices.

3. The entertainment system according to claim 1, wherein the terminal devices access the server machine according to the content distribution schedule to thereby receive the content distributed from the server machine.

4. The entertainment system according to claim 1, wherein the server machine accesses the terminal devices according to the content distribution schedule to thereby proceed with content distribution.

5. The entertainment system according to claim 1, wherein the server machine distributes content according to distribution

orders for the individual users determined based on at least one of a congestion status of the network and a priority of the individual users.

6. A server machine, comprising:

a distribution schedule setting means for setting a content distribution schedule for individual users connected to a network; and

a distribution means for distributing predetermined content via the network to terminal devices of individual users according to the content distribution schedule set by the distribution schedule setting means.

7. The server machine according to claim 6, wherein the distribution means distributes the content distribution schedule to the individual users, and distributes the content after receiving distribution requests from the individual users according to the distribution schedule.

8. The server machine according to claim 6, further comprising:

a communication line connecting means for connecting a communication line between the terminal devices and the server machine according to the distribution schedule set by the distribution schedule setting means,

wherein the distribution means distributes the content after the communication line is connected between the

terminal devices and the server machine.

9. The server machine according to claim 6, wherein the distribution means distributes the content according to distribution orders for the individual users determined based on at least one of a congestion status of the network and a priority of the individual users.

10. A server machine, comprising:

a distribution schedule setting unit operable to set a content distribution schedule for individual users connected to a network; and

a distribution unit operable to distribute predetermined content via the network to terminal devices of the individual users according to the content distribution schedule set by the distribution schedule setting unit.

11. A method for distributing content, comprising:

setting a content distribution schedule on each one of a plurality of terminal devices of individual users connected to a network; and

distributing predetermined content from a server machine connected to the network to the plurality of terminal devices of the individual users according to the content distribution schedule.

12. The method for distributing content according to

claim 11, wherein the content distribution schedule is set based on content distribution requests transmitted from the terminal devices of the individual users.

13. The method for distributing content according to claim 11, further comprising:

distributing the content distribution schedule to the terminal devices of the individual users; and

distributing the content to the terminal devices of the individual users according to the content distribution schedule after the terminal devices are accessed according to the distributed content distribution schedule.

14. A computer-readable storage medium having recorded therein a content distribution program to be executed on a computer, the content distribution program comprising:

detecting a content distribution schedule set on each one of a plurality of terminal devices of individual users; and

distributing predetermined content according to the detected content distribution schedule.

15. The computer-readable storage medium according to claim 14, wherein the content distribution schedule is set based on content distribution requests transmitted from the terminal devices.

16. The computer-readable storage medium according to

claim 14, wherein the content distribution program further comprises:

distributing the content distribution schedule to the terminal devices of the individual users; and

distributing the content to the terminal devices of the individual users according to the content distribution schedule after the terminal devices are accessed according to the distributed content distribution schedule.